

SPO/NMSP Sustainable Seas Expeditions Planning Team

Meeting Summary January 27, 1999

Attendees: Steve Gittings (MSD), Dan Basta (SPO), Maureen Warren (SPO), Paul Orlando (SPO), John McDonough (SPO), Tom LaPointe (SPO), Paula Souik (MSD), Craig Russell (SPO), Davida Remer (SPO), Dave Lott (SPO), Susan Holliday (SPO), Brian Johnson (SPO), Mike Shelby (SPO), Stacy Hoppen (SPO), Michael Weiss (GCOS), Miranda Harris (SPO)

Meeting Discussion

I. Ships/Schedules (Leads: Paul Orlando, Todd Jacobs)

The East Coast and Gulf of Mexico Ship Schedule are close to being resolved. Four different vessels will be used during Year 1. Assistance has been received from NMFS and EPA. Final agreement on ship schedules should be reached by the end of the week. Acquisition of a third submersible for East Coast training is being investigated.

TASK: Andy Shepard and Paul Orlando will discuss options for acquiring access to ROV's for each mission.

TASK: John McDonough will clarify importance of ROV's for safety purposes and to conduct supporting dive activities.

II. NOS Working Groups (Leads: John McDonough, Dan Basta)

The Positioning and Mapping group is planning a meeting (Feb 8) to review and learn about the mapping technologies and software that will be used. The Camera Equipment team is planning to meet (TBA) to discuss camera equipment and related issues. Susan Reeves is organizing the second meeting (TBA).

NOS has received GIS, mapping, and 3-D analyzing software from ESRI for all Sanctuaries. Coastal Services Center will make available a GIS expert for on-site assistance and training for the missions. Other companies are being contacted about possibly donating hardware.

The Data Management team will provide the heirarchal data flow schematic to Stacey Hoppen and Mike Shelby for placement on the SSE Internal Planning Web site.

TASK: Dave Lott or John McDonough will provide the internal web team with the data flow schematic.

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TASK: Stacey Hoppen and Mike Shelby will put the schematic on the SSE Internal Planning Web site.

Justin Kenney is developing a contract to hire a “quick review” video expert who will analyze video for useability prior to processing and duplication.

TASK: Miranda Harris will meet with Justin Kenney to learn about the details of the “quick review” contract.

TASK: The Data Management Team will work with Justin Kenney to identify appropriate video processing paths and protocols.

Donna Turgeon (NCCOS) is heading the Taxonomic Directory working group and will hold an initial meeting of experts on Friday January 29, 1999.

III. Mission Planning (Leads: Dan Basta, John McDonough, Todd Jacobs)

John McDonough met with West Coast Sanctuaries over the past 2 weeks (1/12-22) to assist the Sanctuaries with developing materials for Mission Plans. A draft Mission Planning Process and Mission Plan Outline were presented. Dana Wilkes is developing a final draft Mission/Cruise Plan template. SPO/NMSD staff will receive and compile all mission plan materials into draft Mission Plan documents. Once all draft Mission Plans are complete (early March) a one day meeting might be held with all Sanctuary Mission Coordinators and principal parties (Nuytco, NGS, etc.) to discuss and review each Sanctuary Mission Plan. This meeting might not be required.

A West Coast Mission Coordinators meeting is scheduled for February 3, 1999, to discuss the feasibility of proposed dive operations at each site.

IV. Web Site Development (Lead: Tom LaPointe)

The Right Whale Web site (<http://www.rightwhale.noaa.gov>) can now be accessed, and incorporates a “Mission Log” serving as a prototype for the SSE Mission Log. Lessons learned will be incorporated into the planning of the SSE Mission Log.

The SSE Web site team will meet (2/1-2/12) with West Coast Sanctuary Web site coordinators to discuss the NGS Web site Mission Log, photo gallery as well as potential revisions to the NMS site.

Francesca Cava, Ford Cochran and Tom LaPointe will meet Thursday (1/28) to discuss roles and responsibilities to support the NGS SSE Web site.

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The Internal Planning Web site can now be accessed (<http://sseplanning.nos.noaa.gov>). All planning documents are hosted on this site. Worth noting is the SSE Calendar, which will be frequently updated. All SSE Planning staff is requested to submit tentative and final dates for major meetings or events to Stacey Hoppen (stacy.hoppen@noaa.gov).

The SSE Contact database is being developed. A flat file list of all contact will first be placed on the SSE Internal Web site (sseplanning.nos.noaa.gov). Once attributes and database needs are identified, the Internal Web site will serve an interactive database.

TASK: Craig Russell, Mike Shelby and Stacey Hoppen will coordinate integration of SSE contact database into the Internal Web site.

V. Legal Issues (Leads: Michael Weiss, Maureen Warren)

Michael Weiss continues to work on intellectual property issues, including photograph ownership and usage rights.

VI. NOAA Corps Officer

Dana Wilkes will be hired by SSE until October 1999. John Humphries, Commander of the Whiting, will join in August to manage operations. Dana will remain at PMC and John will be stationed in Silver Spring.

Future Meetings and Important Dates

JANUARY 1999

Jan 29: Private whale watching/snorkeling trip
Jan 30-Feb 1: SSE events in Kona (Earle)
Jan 30: Dive and tour of the deep water facilities off Kona (Natural Energy Lab)
Jan 31: Kona Kick-Off Party for Earle/SSE team at the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel (a.m. dive possibility)

FEBRUARY 1999

Feb TBD: Possible American Samoa NMS Scuba dive (Earle)
Feb 2: MBNMS SSE and NMS Web Planning Meeting
Feb 3: SSE West Coast Mission Coordinators Meeting at GFNMS
Feb 4: GFNMS SSE and NMS Web Planning Meeting
Feb 5: CBNMS SSE and NMS Web Planning Meeting
Feb 8: CINMS SSE and NMS Web Planning Meeting
Feb 10-11: OCNMS SSE and NMS Web Planning Meeting